GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:340
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
RESUMPTION OF INDO-PAK DIALOGUE
ANANTA NAYAK;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have a proposal to initiate talks with Pakistan to establish better bilateral relations;

(b) if so, whether some conditions have been laid down for the purpose

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the response of the Pak Government thereto ; and

(e) the possibility of resumption of Indo-Pak dialogue ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a) to (e) India remains firmly committed to the path of dialogue and reconciliation in keeping with the Simla Agreement and Lahore Declaration. India has repeatedly called upon Pakistan to end its sponsorship of cross-border infiltration and terrorism directed against India so that a conducive environment can be created for the resumption of bilateral dialogue.

General Musharraf committed on 12th January, 27th May and 6th June, 2002 to end cross-border infiltration on permanent basis, not allow the territory of Pakistan to be used for terrorist activity anywhere in the world and not allow any organization in Pakistan to indulge in terrorism in the name of Kashmir. As cross-border infiltration and terrorist violence has not ended, India`s response would be based on implementation of Pakistan`s commitment to end cross-border infiltration and terrorism.